

Voluntary - Public

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## India

**Post:** New Delhi

### **The GOI Releases the Final Veterinary Certificate for the Import of Hides and Skins**

**Report Categories:**

FAIRS Subject Report

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**Report Highlights:**

The Ministry of Agriculture released a final veterinary certificate for the import of hides and skins on its official website. This new import protocol will be effective on June 1, 2009.

**General Information:**

**Introduction:** The Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries (DADF), Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), posted a final veterinary certificate for the import of hides and skins into India on its website. The veterinary certificate would be effective on June 1, 2009.

**Disclaimer:** This summary is based on an initial review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or on its implications for U.S. agricultural exports to India.

**Type of Regulation:** Final

**Date of notification on**  
March 19, 2009

**Effective Date:** June 1, 2009

Hides and skins of cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, horse and camel.

**Agency in charge:** Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries,  
Ministry of Agriculture

**Major Changes:**

The text details of the veterinary certificate can be accessed at:

<http://dahd.nic.in/trade/VeternarySkinHides19032009.pdf>

Some of the principal changes in the final veterinary certificate for hides and skins are given below-

- The country of origin requirement has now been restricted only to the slaughtering of animals.
- The disease free/quarantine requirements have also been limited to only anthrax, sheep pox and goat pox.
- Various other restrictive conditions (listed under point 3, 5 and 6, below) under the old certificate (<http://dahd.nic.in/trade/protocolforhidesandskin.htm> ) have not been included in the final certificate.

*3. The skin and hides have been obtained from the animals slaughtered at an authorized slaughter house approved by the Government of the exporting country and subjected to ante and post mortem inspection by the official veterinarian.*

*5. The skins and hides are not derived from non ambulatory disabled animals and are free from any defect and abrasions.*

*6. The skins and hides are adequately dried and do not contain live tissues (i.e. trace of horn core, flesh & tendon) and have been adequately salted and disinfected.*

- The processing requirements for hides and skins have been modified.

Chemically treating/liming in acidic or alkaline solutions soaking, with agitation in a 4% (w/v) solution of washing soda (sodium carbonate -  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ) maintained at pH 11.5 or above for atleast 48 hours)/formic acid solution (100 kg salt Sodium Chloride -  $\text{NaCl}$ ) and 12 kg formic acid per 1,000 litres water) maintained at below pH 3.0 for at least 48 hours.

or

The skins and hides have been treated for at least 28 days with sea salt (sodium chloride) containing 2 % washing soda (sodium carbonate -  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3$ ).

or

gamma radiation at a dose of atleast 20kilo Gray at room temperature (20degree or higher).

### **Background:**

Earlier notifications related to the import regulations for various categories of raw hides and skins can be reviewed via IN8033, IN8060, IN8071, IN8122, IN8134, IN8142, IN9009, IN9018 and IN9042.

### **Comments:**

The DADF has released the final version of the veterinary certificate for the import of hides and skins on its website. However, no official Gazette notification has been issued by the Ministry of Agriculture. The veterinary certificate has been posted on the DADF website as a source of immediate information for concerned exporters/importers of hides and skins. The DADF will also subsequently release the new veterinary certificate for hides and skins through an official gazette notification. However, imports of raw hides and skins will be permitted under the old requirements (detailed under notification no. S.O. 794 (E), dated March 28, 2008) until May 31, 2009. The new veterinary certificate will be implemented on June 1, 2009.

The websites are mentioned for readers' convenience; USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained in the above websites.

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